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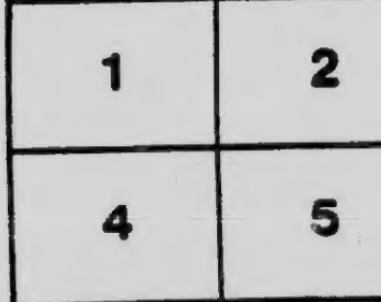
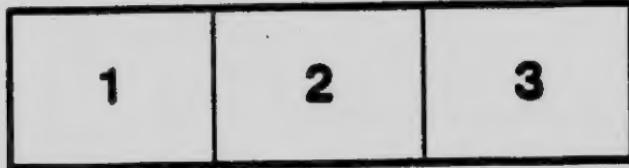
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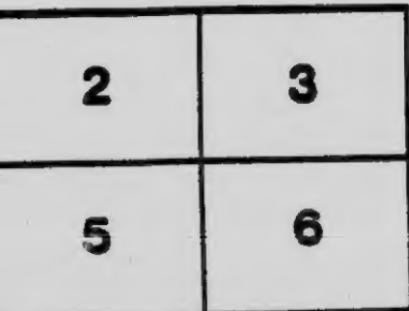
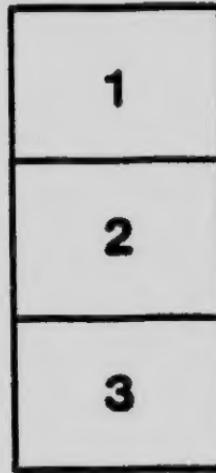
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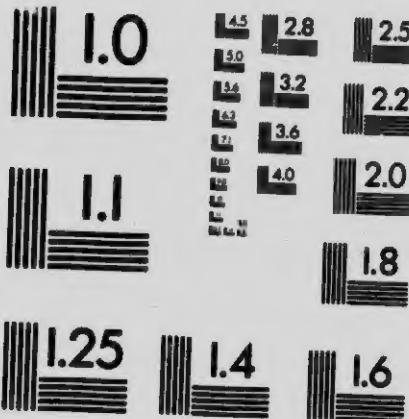
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THE RECORD
OF THE
LIBERAL
GOVERNMENT

A PROGRESSIVE
POLICY PURSUED.

"DEVELOP CANADA,"

HAS BEEN THE MOTTO

Peace, Harmony and Prosperity have Prevailed

OTTAWA FREE PRESS PRINT

The Liberal Record

FACTS BRIEFLY STATED

The last seven years under Liberal Rule have been marked by unprecedented progress and prosperity.

Never were the farmers so well to do, so happy and so comfortable.

Never were manufacturers so busy.

Never were working men so much in demand.

Never did they get better wages.

Never did Canada bulk so largely in the eyes of the world.

Greater progress all round has been made in the past seven years than during the previous eighteen years.

THE TARIFF.

The Liberal Government revised, reformed and reduced the Tariff.

In 1896 the average duty paid on all goods imported was \$18.28 per \$100, whereas last year only \$15.88 was paid.

If the average duties imposed during the Conservative administration of 18 years had been imposed during the last seven years, over 30 million dollars more money would have been collected from the people.

Manufacturers were assisted by material reductions in duties on iron and steel and other raw materials.

The farmer got Free Binder Twine, Indian Corn, Barbed and other Fencing Wire Cream Separators, etc., substantial reductions in his favor were also made on many agricultural implements, on Hardware, Woollens, Cottons, Linens, Glassware, Hats, Caps, Furs and on many other staple commodities.

A substantial preference was granted to Great Britain. Direct result, British imports which formerly declined greatly, have doubled—and our exports have also largely increased.

Canada led the way in Imperial Preferential Trade—South Africa has followed suit. New Zealand has promised to do so; Australia may act likewise—and it is possible that Great Britain may also revise her trade faith and adopt the principle.

Mark it well, if ever we get a preference in the British Market for our food products, it will be the direct fruit and result of the Canadian Liberal Government's preferential Tariff.

Chamberlain has put our preference, with

our offer to increase its value, before the British people, and asked them to reciprocate.

A surtax was placed on German products in retaliation for Germany discriminating against us because we favoured our Mother Land.

The Preferential Tariff has been offered to South Africa in exchange for their preference.

THE FINANCES.

During the seven years the Liberals have been in power the Government only added 6½ million dollars to the public debt—whereas the Conservatives in their last seven years added 21 millions.

The Conservatives added to the debt at the rate of 6½ millions a year for 18 years.

The Liberals added less than one million dollars a year for 7 years.

In 1896, the public debt per head of the population was \$50.96—to-day it is \$47.97—a reduction of \$3.00.

It should be noted here that in the foregoing calculations as to the public debt, no credit is taken or allowance made for a reduction of the debt last year to the amount, \$3,305,243, which was due to a re-adjustment of the provincial accounts. If that amount be included the actual increase of debt under Liberal rule was only 3 million—and the per capita debt is \$3.59 less than in 1896.

Though they increased the debt at a much smaller rate than the Conservatives, the Liberal Government in the last seven years spent 65 millions on capital account for beneficial public works, as against 37 millions spent by the Conservatives during the last seven years they were in office.

The Liberals spent nearly twice as much as the former Government, for the present and future good of the whole people, yet added much less to the public debt.

Out of the 37 millions spent on capital by the Conservatives between 1889 and 1896—21 millions were provided by additions to the debt.

The Liberals between 1896 and 1903 spent 65 millions on capital—yet only added 6½ millions to the debt.

The ordinary revenue exceeded the ordinary expenditure in the 7 years of Liberal Government, by 41 millions. During the previous 7 years the excess revenue was only 2 millions.

Deficits to the amount of \$5,694,759 were recorded during the last three years of Conservative Government.

Surpluses to the amount of 27 millions were recorded for the three years 1901-02 and '03.

The revenue increased from 36 to 66 millions between 1896 and 1903—as compared with a reduction of 2 millions during the previous 7 years.

The increased revenue was obtained without adding to the burdens of the people; on the contrary taxation has been lowered. Custom duties are on the average 13 per cent less than they were—postage rates for hon. letters and U. S. letters are one-third less, and for British letters over one-half less.

It is true the ordinary expenditure has been largely increased. No apology is offered and none is necessary. Rather is it confidently believed that the financial record is worthy of approval and commendation. The Govern-

school

ment kept pace with the progress of the country.

You cannot fairly compare Canadian expenditure of to-day with that of 7 years ago, without making allowance for the tremendous advancement the country has made.

In addition to all this immense portions of the West and the Yukon have been opened up.

As a business man's expenses increase with the growth of his business—so do a nation's.

Ample return has been received for every dollar expended.

Do not pass judgment on expenditures in the gross without scrutinizing the details.

Through the efforts of the Government the country's securities were placed by the British Government on the highly favored Trustee List in Great Britain, which comprises only the most gilt edged investments—such as British Consols.

Progress of the Country.

Kindly look at this table, and note the striking and astounding contrast.

	Increase for 18 years under Con- servatives, 18 6, compared with 1878	Increase for 7 years under Lib- erals, 1903, com- pared with 1896
Total foreign trade	66 millions	228 millions
Total exports of Canadian produce	42	104
Bank circulation	20	47
Bank discounts	101	181
Deposits in Banks	165	215
Assets of Banks	140	325
Railway tonnage, tons	16	" tons 19
Letters posted	No. 72	No. 118
Exports Canadian manufactures	5	" 11 "

Here we see much greater progress all round in the last seven years than during the previous 18 years.

TRANSPORTATION.

The Intercolonial Railway was extended from Levis to Montreal.

The construction of the Crow's Nest Pass—thereby developing the Kootenay District—was secured by means of a subsidy. It was moreover a part of the bargain with the C. P. R. that they would substantially reduce freight rates to the farmers of Manitoba and the West.

When the Government took office they found that at the rate of progress that had been made under Conservative administrations the St. Lawrence Canal system would not be completed for at least ten years. Recognizing the importance of the work in the interests of the country, and particularly of the Great North-West, the Government determined to rush it to completion. This was done and by 1900 a clear channel of 14 feet was available from the Great Lakes to Ocean ports in Eastern Canada.

In addition to the speedy completion of the canal system the Government has pursued a most vigorous policy with the object of cheapening and facilitating transport between the Great North-West and the Atlantic seaboard.

Special and energetic attention was directed towards improving conditions of

(1) The harbors on Lake Superior where the western grain is delivered by railways and transhipped.

(2) The harbors for transhipment in Ontario.

- (3) The lines of route between Ontario and Montreal.
- (4) The harbors for receiving, storing and shipment for ocean voyages.
- (5) The ship channel between Montreal and Quebec to the sea.
- (6) The Telegraph system.

Canal Tolls and Steamboat tonnage dues were abolished last season.

Aids to navigation in the shape of Light Houses, Range Lights, Fog Horns and Alarms, and light ships were provided at hundreds of places.

The ship channel from Montreal to Sorel was lighted at night during a portion of the past season of navigation.

New Steamship services were arranged for as follows :—

St. John N.B., to Glasgow, Belfast and Dublin.

Montreal and Quebec in summer to Manchester.

Halifax and St. John in winter to Manchester.

Atlantic ports to France.

Atlantic ports to South Africa.

Ships built outside the British Empire were excluded from Canadian coasting trade unless upon payment of 25 per cent of their value for a license.

Railway subsidies, which formerly were a gift are now given on condition that the railway companies shall perform service by way of carrying the mails to the extent of a fair annual interest on the amount of the subsidies. A policy also of guaranteeing the bonds of Railway Companies has been adopted and in this way railroads are built without real cost to the Government.

Discrimination in freight rates of Canadian Railways in favour of the Standard Oil Company, was stopped—and a schedule arranged providing for equal treatment to all shippers.

The new Railway Act passed last Session gives the people greater control over railways, removes substantial grievances of farmers in respect of fences, gates, cattle guards, and fires, and gives assurance of fairer and more uniform treatment to shippers generally.

A Board of Railway Commissioners is to be substituted for the Railway Committee of the Privy Council.

A Commission has been named to study transportation problems, and advise the Government thereon.

The construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific has been arranged for.

IMMIGRATION.

A vigorous immigration policy has been pursued with magnificent results. The Great North-West is now being rapidly peopled. The eyes of the world are directed towards Canada. During the last five years 313 thousand immigrants came to the country; compare this with 113 thousand during the last five years of Conservative policy.

Homestead entries between 1896 and 1903—totalled 75,530, or 13,000 more than for the whole 18 years of Conservative administration.

Land sales viz. by Railway Companies in North-West :

	4 years	4 years
	1892 to 1896	1899 to 1903
Acres	411,608	7,700,212
Value	\$1,144,530	\$26,632,130

When the C.P.R. in 1902 applied to Parliament for an increase in capital stock, the Government authorized the increase in order that the needs of the country might be met, but specified how all the money should be spent, and compelled the C.P.R. to agree to the immediate submission of a test case to the courts to ascertain whether the term of exemption of the C.P.R. from Government control of its freight rates had expired. The case is before the courts.

The Government has entered test cases on behalf of municipalities to ascertain when the C.P.R. term of exemption from taxation terminates.

The Government secured the release of millions of acres of odd-numbered sections of land in the West from railway control and decided that the homesteader is to have precedence in the purchase of this land.

The Government has relieved the lands of the farmers who acted as bondsmen for neighbors, from seed-grain liability.

Land regulations have been simplified, and in a host of other ways settlement has been made more easy.

The arable lands of the Dominion have been

held for the actual settlers; not an acre has been disposed of to speculators.

Agricultural Interests.

The Government secured the abolition of Quarantine on Canadian Cattle exported to United States. Result—A fine market for young Canadian stockers, and greatly increased sales thereof.

Mechanical Cold Storage facilities were developed and perfected. Result—Increased sales of Butter, Cheese, Fruits, etc.

A live stock commissioner was appointed to promote and foster the live stock interests of the country.

Creameries were successfully established in the North-West.

A new division was created in the Agricultural Commissioner's Branch for the extension of foreign markets, under which officers are detailed to supervise the loading of our agricultural exports at Canadian ports and the reception of them in British ports, resulting in great improvement in the handling and the storage during transport.

The poultry trade has been greatly stimulated by improving the methods of fattening poultry and packing it for market, and also by improving the methods of transporting eggs.

The Fruit Marks Act was passed resulting in greatly improving the packing of our fruits, and highly complimentary reports from British markets of the improvements in Canadian fruit, and higher prices obtained.

The Butter Act was passed providing for absolute prohibition of import, manufacture

or sale of spurious butters in Canada. A definition of the grades of butter is hereby established which safeguards the reputation of, and trade in Canada on butter.

A new division, for the investigation into the sale of agricultural seeds and improving of their quality, has been established.

The tobacco growing industry was stimulated.

Provision was made for efficient inspection of Binder Twine in the interest of the Farming community.

POSTAL REFORMS.

Postage rates were substantially reduced thereby effecting a saving of about a million dollars per annum to the people.

Many Postal Reforms were instituted such as Decentralization of Dead Letter Branch—adoption of Postal Note System—and special delivery system.

The Post Office Department which in Conservative days had annual deficits amounting to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million dollars, has been made self sustaining. Last year a surplus of \$292,702 was recorded—notwithstanding reduced postage rates.

In his Budget speech of 1896 the Conservative Finance Minister, Hon. George E. Foster, spoke as follows :

“There is now a deficit of somewhere near \$80,000, between the total receipts and total expenditures of our Postal service : and this, I fear, makes the time somewhat distant when what otherwise might be fairly asked for can be granted—that is, a

reduction upon the rates of postage in this country."

Sir William Mulock was largely instrumental in bringing about Penny postage within the Empire.

GENERAL ACTS.

Law and order were established in our new territory—the Yukon District—without cost, comparatively speaking, to the older Districts.

A Telegraph line was constructed to the Yukon.

A system of Cold Storage was adopted for the preservation of bait for the fishermen of the Maritime Provinces.

Fair wages to labor on Government contracts and works aided by Dominion Government funds, were provided for.

An inspector of binder twine has been appointed and the farmer is protected from having short twine sold to him. 275,000 pounds of short and bad twine were sent back in the summer of 1903, to American and other manufacturers owing to the activity of the inspector and many fines were imposed.

The sweating system on Government contracts was abolished.

A Department of Labor was established.

A "Labor Gazette" was instituted, and is published monthly.

An Act was passed providing for the adoption of conciliatory methods in the settlement of labor disputes—and machinery was provided to give effect to it. Result—many big strikes which threatened to be serious were amicably and speedily settled.

Trade Commissioners were appointed in Great Britain, South Africa, Japan and France.

A trade with the British West Indies was stimulated by extending the preferential tariff to them.

Financial assistance was given towards construction of Pacific Cable which is now in operation.

The prepayment of Canadian Custom duties in Great Britain was arranged for.

Monthly returns of imports and exports have been published since 1900. Formerly trade returns were published annually—and the information was too ancient at time of publication to be of practical business value.

Iron and steel industries and silver lead mining were aided by means of bounties.

Machinery for Beet Sugar factories and placer mining was placed on the Free List.

An assay office was established in Vancouver.

Acting upon strong representations from our Government, the Imperial Government placed large orders aggregating millions of dollars in Canada for military supplies during the progress of the Transvaal war.

Magnificent exhibitions of the country's resources were under the direction of the Government, made at Paris, Glasgow, Buffalo, Wolverhampton, Cork and Japan. No expense was spared—and the Exhibits redounded greatly to our benefit.

Substantial financial assistance was given towards the Dominion Industrial exhibition, Toronto.

The Dominion Government Marine has been strengthened in the last few years by the addition of a number of first class boats.

Combinations in restraint of trade were checked by reducing duties.

The Militia has been greatly strengthened and improved.

The cumbrous Franchise Act was repealed, and an improved ballot and other means were adopted to ensure an honest casting and counting of the vote, and thus prevent the repetition of such disgraceful and deplorable tactics as the Manitoba and other election frauds of 1896 under Conservative rule.

The iniquitous Gerrymander was wiped out, and a fair redistribution of seats was made by a Committee of the House of Commons. Justice and fairness were substituted for gross injustice.

The Civil Service Superannuation Act was abolished as respects new appointments after July 1st, 1898.

The tax on Chinese Immigrants was raised from \$100 to \$500 per head.

Substantial financial assistance was given towards improving and beautifying Ottawa, the Capital City of the Dominion.

By the sending of the Canadian troops to South Africa and the visits of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to Great Britain and Europe in 1897 and 1902, in connection with the Jubilee of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and the Coronation of King Edward VII, Canada was brought to the attention of the world more prominently than ever before.

MR. ELECTOR,

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT ALL?

Does the record not inspire you with the greatest confidence in the Government?

Are you not proud of the progress our common country has made?

Looking at the matter fairly and squarely and without political bias is it not your candid opinion that the Government are justly entitled to a large measure of credit and a renewal of public confidence?

Could the wonderful development of the last seven years have taken place under a bad, policy?

Ottawa, Nov. 15, 1903.



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